



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,474	10/30/2001	Sukhminder Grewal	17652-00008	1287
7590		10/04/2007		
John S. Beulick Armstrong Teasdale LLP Suite 2600 One Metropolitan Sq. St. Louis, MO 63102			EXAMINER CHOJNACKI, MELLISSA M	
			ART UNIT 2164	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/04/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/021,474

Applicant(s)

GREWAL ET AL.

Examiner

Mellissa M. Chojnacki

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/25/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 21-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 21-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to communications filed on June 25, 2007, claims 18-20 remain cancelled; claims 1-3, 8, 10-12, and 21-22 have been amended, and no new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-17 and 21-25 are still presently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 2, 10, 12, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 2, 10, 12, and 22 disclose "a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the results by selecting a location on the selection bar". The specification of the current application does disclose a selection bar however there is no mention of a part of the selection bar allowing the user to select a location. There is no mention or description of the selection bar and the paragraphs pointed to by the applicant do not disclose a selection bar with a "location" on it. The examiner cannot make the assumption that the selection bar

Art Unit: 2164

contains a "location" on it and therefore, the "location" section/part of the "selection bar" is considered new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-17 and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by August et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,647,383).

As to claim 1, August et al. teaches a method for displaying search results using a computer coupled to a database (See column 25, lines 29-36), the method comprising the steps of:

storing data files within a plurality of databases wherein each data file includes a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier, each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to (See abstract; column 2, lines 62-67; column 3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57);

inputting into the computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user; storing the user data in the database (See abstract; column 2, lines 62-67; column 3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57);

assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57);

assigning the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to input the at least one customized business community into the computer (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57);

prompting the user to enter search terms into the computer for performing a search for information (See abstract; column 12, lines 58-67; column 13, lines 1-6);

displaying on the computer search results from the performed search, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community (See abstract; column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 11, lines 12-18); and

displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least

Art Unit: 2164

one customized business community assigned to the user and the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11).

As to claim 2, August et al. teaches wherein the search zoom tool includes a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the search results by selecting a location on the selection bar that corresponds with the subset of the search results to be displayed (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar"), and wherein displaying a subset of the search further comprises:

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a business community location on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar");

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a sub-business community on location on the selection bar including each search result having a sub-

Art Unit: 2164

business community identifier that corresponds with the sub-business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where “toolbar” is read on “selection bar”); and

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a customized business community location on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the customized business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where “toolbar” is read on “selection bar”).

As to claim 3, August et al. teaches wherein each search result is previously assigned to a location, and wherein displaying a subset of the search results based on a user selection further comprises displaying a subset of the search results based on a user selection relating to the geographic location of the user (See column 3, lines 41-47, where “communities” is read on “Community of Interest (CIO)”; also see column 4, lines 33-39; lines 53-54; column 17, lines 64-67; column 18, lines 31-40).

As to claim 4, August et al. teaches wherein displaying on the computer search results from the performed search further comprises enabling a user to select one of a plurality of types of search results to be displayed, wherein a first type of search result that can be displayed comprises a complete set of the search results, and wherein a

Art Unit: 2164

second type of search result comprises a subset of the complete search results (See abstract; column 1, lines 8-12, lines 26-44; column 12, lines 58-67; column 13, lines 1-4).

As to claim 5, August et al. teaches wherein enabling a user to select one of a plurality of types of search results to be displayed further comprises enabling a user to select one of a plurality of types of search results to be displayed, the second type of search result is based on a first vector wherein the first vector includes a business community assigned to the user (See column 12, lines 61-67; column 13, lines 1-6, where "second type of search results" is read on "nodes"; also see column 14, lines 50-53; and column 15, lines 5-8).

As to claim 6 and 16, August et al. teaches wherein enabling a user to select one of a plurality of types of search results to be displayed further comprises enabling a user can to select a third type and a fourth type of search results, the third type of search result based on a second vector and the fourth type of search result based on a third vector, the second vector includes a sub-business community assigned to the user and the third vector includes a customized business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57, lines 61-67; column 13, lines 1-6, where "third type and forth type of search results" are read on "nodes"; also see column 14, lines 50-53; and column 15, lines 5-8); wherein a user can select a third type and a fourth type of search results, the third type of search result

Art Unit: 2164

based on a second vector and the fourth type of search result based on a third vector, the second vector includes the sub-business community assigned to the user and the third vector includes a customized business community selected by the user See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57, lines 61-67; column 13, lines 1-6, where "third type and forth type of search results" are read on "nodes"; also see column 14, lines 50-53; and column 15, lines 5-8).

As to claim 7, August et al. teaches wherein displaying a subset of the search results based on a selection by the user further comprises displace a subset of the search results based on a selection by the user including by at least one of an engineering business community (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57).

As to claim 8, August et al. teaches a computer comprising a display, a user interface, and a processor, the computer coupled to a database, the processor programmed to receive user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user (See column 1, lines 8-12; column 3, lines 38-41), a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user;

store the user data in the database (See abstract; column 2, lines 62-67; column3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57);

Art Unit: 2164

assign the user based on the user data to at least one business community, and at least one sub-business community (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57);

prompt the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information (See abstract; column 12, lines 58-67; column 13, lines 1-6);

display on the user interface search results from the performed search, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community (See abstract; column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 11, lines 12-18); and

display on the user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of the business community assigned to the user and the sub-business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 7-12).

As to claim 9, August et al. teaches wherein the computer is configured to be coupled to a network, and wherein the search results are based on a search of data sources in the network (See column 3, lines 47-53).

As to claim 10, August et al. teaches wherein the search zoom tool includes a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the search

Art Unit: 2164

results by selecting a location on the selection bar that corresponds with the subset of the search results to be displayed (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar"), and wherein displaying a subset of the search further comprises:

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a business community location on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar");

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a sub-business community on location on the selection bar including each search result having a sub-business community identifier that corresponds with the sub-business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar"); and

displaying a subset of the search results when the user selects a customized business community location on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the customized business community assigned to the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines

Art Unit: 2164

6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where “toolbar” is read on “selection bar”).

As to claim 11, August et al. teaches wherein the processor is further programmed to:

prompt the user to select a customized business community (See column 10, lines 29-42);

display on the user interface a user selection bar including a business community location on the selection bar, a sub-business community location on the selection bar, and a customized business community location on the selection bar (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where “tool bar” is read on “selection bar”); and

display on the user interface a subset of the search results based on the location selected by the user on the interactive bar, the displayed subset of search results corresponding to the selector selected by the user and the community wherein each search result has been assigned (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where “tool bar” is read on “selection bar”).

As to claim 12, August et al. teaches wherein the interactive selection bar further includes a location on the interactive selection bar for displaying a subset of search

Art Unit: 2164

results relating to a geographic location of the user (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "tool bar" is read on "selection bar"; also see column 17, lines 64-67; column 18, lines 31-40).

As to claim 13, August et al. teaches wherein the user selection comprises one of a plurality of communities in which the user is a member wherein the user selection comprises one of a plurality of communities in which the user is a member (See column 3, lines 41-47, where "communities" is read on "Community of Interest (CIO)"; also see column 4, lines 33-39; lines 53-54).

As to claim 14, August et al. teaches wherein the user interface is configured so that a user can select one of a plurality of types of search results to be displayed (See column 10, lines 29-42), and wherein a first type of search result that can be displayed comprises a complete set of the search results, and wherein a second type of search result comprises a subset of the complete search results (See column 12, lines 58-67; column 13, lines 1-4).

As to claim 15, August et al. teaches wherein the second type of search result is based on a first vector wherein the first vector includes a business community assigned to the user (See column 12, lines 12-17, lines 61-67; column 13, lines 1-6, where

Art Unit: 2164

"second type of search results" is read on "nodes"; also see column 14, lines 50-53; and column 15, lines 5-8).

As to claim 17 and 23, August et al. teaches wherein the business community includes an engineering community, and the sub-business community includes at least one of a power systems community, and an aircraft industry community (See abstract; column3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57; column 19, lines 10-25); further comprising a code segment wherein the at least one business community includes an engineering community, and the at least one sub-business community includes at least one of a power systems community, and an aircraft industry community (See abstract; column3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57; column 19, lines 10-25).

As to claim 21, August et al. teaches a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface coupled to a computer, the program comprising a code segment that receives user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user (See column 1, lines 8-12; column 3, lines 38-41), a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user and then:

stores the user data in a database (See abstract; column 2, lines 62-67; column3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57);

assigns the user based on the user data to at least one business community, and at least one sub-business community (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 11, lines 12-18; column 12, lines 44-57);

prompts the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information (See abstract; column 12, lines 58-67; column 13, lines 1-6);

displays on the user interface search results from the performed search, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community (See abstract; column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 11, lines 12-18); and

displays on the user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of the business community assigned to the user and the sub-business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 7-12).

As to claim 22, August et al. teaches prompts the user to select a customized business community (See column 10, lines 29-42);

a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the search results by selecting a location on the selection bar that corresponds with the subset of the search results to be displayed (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-

12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar"), and wherein the selection bar includes a business community location on the selection bar, a sub-business community on the selection bar, and a customized business community location on the selection bar (See column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11, where "toolbar" is read on "selection bar"); and

displays on the user interface a subset of the search results based on the selector selected by the user from the interactive bar, the displayed subset of search results corresponding to the selector selected by the user and the community wherein each search result has been assigned (See column 10, lines 29-42, where "interactive selection bar" is read on "tools and guides"; also see column 13, lines 7-12).

As to claims 24 and 25, August et al. teaches storing information in the database including a plurality of documents relating to a plurality of subject matters (See abstract; column 3, lines 41-47; column 4, lines 33-39; lines 53-54; column 19, lines 1-25); and

assigning each document stored in the database to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community (See abstract; column 2, lines 63-67; column 3, lines 1-8; lines 38-53).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 07-October -2007, with respect to the rejected claims 1-30 have been fully considered but they are not found to be persuasive:

In response to applicants' arguments regarding "a user interactive selection bar that enables a user to display a subset of the search results by selecting a location on the selection bar that corresponds with the subset of the search results to be displayed," the arguments have been fully considered but are not found to be persuasive, because the specification does not disclose a "user interactive selection bar that enables a user to display a subset of the search results by selecting a location". There is no mention of a location button or area on the user selection bar. Furthermore, August et al. discloses customizing a "toolbar" and results based on geography (See column 12, lines 16-39; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67 and column 14, lines 1-11).

Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mellissa M. Chojnacki whose telephone number is (571) 272-4076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2164

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 14, 2007
Mmc


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER